Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee

Priorities and Values for FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 OCOH Spending Recommendations



CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

City Performance
Office of the Controller

OCOH Oversight Committee Priorities and Values

Overview/Timeline:

- At the November Retreat, the Committee discussed the need to develop a set of priorities and values to inform FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 spending recommendations.
- Fund Balance amounts used in the budget process will derive from the mid-March revenue update and forecast.
- Departments will submit OCOH fund budget proposals to the Mayor's Office on Friday March 31, 2023.

Beginning in January, the Committee will be developing a set of values and priorities to be approved at or before the March 23rd OCOH Oversight Committee. This process will allow the Committee to:

- Engage meaningfully with departments during earlier stages of budget development.
- Make budget recommendations by the end of April.

Synthesizing the Committee's Existing Work

The Committee laid out it's values in the 2 Year Investment Plan that was published at the end of FY2020-2021 with the support of Tipping Point Community and Matthew Doherty.

- Process values (e.g., engaging stakeholders, etc.)
- Investment values (e.g., investments that support system flow)
- Priorities from people with lived expertise (e.g., permanent housing)

Staff synthesized:

- Original Investment Plan values
- Priorities and needs identified in the Needs Assessment (FY2022-2023)
- FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24 Budget Recommendations

Four over-arching priorities and values emerged across these sources.

1. Center Racial Equity

- Center equity in recommendations and oversight responsibilities to be responsive to historic, structural, and systemic disparities (2 Year Investment Plan).
- Structural racism and economic inequality are primary drivers of homelessness (Needs Assessment).
- Seeking out, listening, and being guided by the experiences and voices of people with lived expertise of homelessness and housing instability (2 Year Investment Plan).

The current OCOH spending plan and budget reflect this priority by:

- Setting aside resources for specific populations and/or neighborhoods. As examples, transgender, youth, Bayview neighborhood, justice involved.
- Disaggregating reporting data by race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation and age.

2. Prioritize a wider array of programs to meet diverse needs

- Prioritize a wider range of housing and prevention options that meet people where they are, not where we expect them to be (2 Year Investment Plan).
- Prioritize recommendations that align with the Housing First approach to system and program design that recognizes permanent housing as the solution to homelessness with low-barrier and individualized services (2 Year Investment Plan).
- Need flexibility within program design and duration to accommodate individualized needs (2 Year Investment Plan).
- People experiencing homelessness have diverse needs. An effective response
 to homelessness will be modeled on the population's needs and may include
 approaches that aren't currently part of the city-wide response (Needs
 Assessment).

2. A wider array of programs to meet diverse needs

The current spending plan and budget reflect this priority by investing in:

Permanent Housing

- Flex pool subsidies including slots targeted to women, older adults, youth, and families
- Family housing ladder
- Long term subsidies for SRO families
- Medium term subsidies with workforce dev.
- Medium term subsidy extensions for families
- Equity services in PSH

Prevention

 Building a homelessness prevention system: eviction prevention, targeted homelessness prevention, problem solving

Mental Health

- Outreach crisis and health services
- Drop-in mental health services including targeted to TAY and Trans communities
- Case Management & Care Coordination
- A spectrum of treatment beds

Shelter and Hygiene

- Crisis Interventions like Safe Sleep and Safe Parking/Vehicle Triage Center
- A range of shelter program models: hotel vouchers, trailer program, non-congregate family shelter, navigation centers.

3. Prioritize permanent housing solutions to generate system flow.

- Develop recommendations that facilitate system flow by pairing temporary interventions and services . . . with permanent housing solutions (2 Year Investment Plan).
- Add investments with the twin goals of meeting diverse needs and increasing flow through the homeless response system will maximize capacity and effectiveness (Needs Assessment).
- Prioritize permanent housing solutions (2 Year Investment Plan).

3. Prioritize permanent housing solutions to generate system flow.

The current investment plan and City budget reflect this priority by investing in:

Permanent Housing

- Acquiring & operating new site-based PSH
- New development of family PSH
- Flexible housing subsidy pool
- Ongoing subsidies for SRO families
- Family Housing Ladder
- Medium-term housing subsidies and extensions

Mental Health

 Expanded and new clinical support services for people in PSH

Prevention

- Housing stabilization
- Shallow subsidies and mental health services for legacy PSH tenants
- Eviction prevention
- Targeted homelessness prevention

4. Increase investment, leverage funding, and coordinate effort to bring resources to scale.

- Prioritize OCOH funds for the most strategic uses with consideration of how to most effectively leverage and fill gaps of other local, state, and federal funds (2 Year Investment Plan).
- Resources are not available at the scale the homelessness crisis demands (Needs Assessment).
- Effectively responding to all forms of homelessness will require significant new investment and coordinated effort (Needs Assessment).

4. Increase investment, leverage funding, and coordinate effort to bring resources to scale.

The current investment plan and City budget reflect this priority by investing in:

Permanent Housing

- Use of OCOH Funds as match in Homekey acquisitions
- Use of OCOH Flex Pool funds to make Emergency Housing Vouchers accessible to people experiencing homelessness
- Partnerships with Workforce Development

Prevention

 Pandemic funding from federal & state sources complemented and extended and OCOH funding for Homelessness Prevention

Mental Health

• Whole Person Care and CalAIM for street health and overdose response

Shelter and Hygiene

- Pandemic funding from federal & state sources complemented and extended OCOH funding for temporary shelter and crisis interventions.
- Partnership with Adult Probation

Questions.

- Are there priorities or values that are not captured in the 2 Year Investment Plan and Needs Assessment, but should be added?
- The spending recommendations have used set-asides to prioritize equity. In addition to set asides, where are there additional opportunities to prioritize equity – or make the equity value even more visible – in the spending plan?
- Prioritizing a wider range of programs to meet diverse needs is a meaningful finding in both the 2 Year Investment Plan and the Needs Assessment. How can the Committee highlight the connection between people's needs and fund investments?
- What questions do you have for community stakeholders to inform this year's recommendations?

Next Steps

Liaison meetings

- Liaisons plus 3 additional Members can participate.
- Begin in February, with focus on implementation
- March liaison meeting will focus on sharing Committee priorities and values

February 23, 2023 meeting: 6-month report on spending and implementation.

Mid-March OCOH fund revenue forecast will set fund balances for the budget year.

End of March finalization of OCOH Oversight Committee's Priorities and Values.